REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated June 19, 2008. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claims 29 to 47 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over U.S. Patent No. 6,151,131 (Pepin). Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

The present invention concerns composing documents using both stored documents and scanned in documents. In one aspect of the invention, a user of a printing system can obtain, by inputting a single user instruction, a printed sheet print from stored print data that is disposed between cover sheets on which scanned image data obtained by a scanner unit has been printed.

Turning to specific claim language, amended independent Claim 29 is directed to a printing system which enables a printing device to print data transmitted by a remote computer. The system includes a store controller unit that causes a memory unit to store print data transmitted by the remote computer; a user interface controller unit that causes a user interface unit of the printing device to perform display for selecting at least one of a plurality of data including the print data which has been stored in the memory unit; and an operation controller unit that causes the printing device to perform a first printing operation, a second printing operation and a third printing. The first printing operation and the third printing operation are operations for printing scan image data obtained by a scanner unit as a cover sheet. The second printing operation is an operation for printing the print data stored in the memory unit and selected via the user interface

unit. The first printing operation, the second printing operation and the third printing operation are sequentially performed in order of the first printing operation, the second printing operation and the third printing operation, in response to a single user instruction via the user interface unit of the printing device. The print data to be printed in the second printing operation is obtained before inputting the single user instruction and first scan image data to be printed in the first printing operation and the second scan image data to be printed in the third printing operation are obtained by using the scanner unit after inputting the single user instruction. A sheet subjected to printing by the second printing operation is disposed between the cover sheet subjected to printing by the first printing operation and the cover sheet subjected to printing by the third printing operation.

Applicant respectfully submits that Pepin neither discloses nor suggests all of the features of the present invention. Specifically, Pepin neither discloses nor suggests at least the features of first, second and third printing operations being sequentially performed in response to a single user instruction wherein a sheet subjected to printing by the second printing operation is disposed between a cover sheet subjected to printing by the first printing operation and a cover sheet subjected to printing by the third printing operation.

In contrast to the present invention, Pepin discloses a printing station that, with the help of a user, obtains print data to be printed in a first operation prior to pressing a print or start button, and, after pressing another print or start button, further obtains scanned image data that is to be printed. In another aspect of Pepin, scanned print

data is stored in a memory unit of print station 2. Both first and second data may be printed sequentially in response to a “print” button being pressed after the files to be printed are selected from a screen of a user interface.

More specifically, Fig. 6 of Pepin discloses a screen to be displayed on USER INTERFACE 52, in which a "Start Scan" selection is included. Further, although Pepin does not clearly disclose how printing station 2 operates when the "Start Scan" button is pressed, it is arguable that this button is a button for starting a scanning operation by a scanner. However, Pepin does not disclose or suggest that a printing operation is started if the "Start Scan" button is pressed. Moreover, since the single user instruction in the present invention is an instruction for sequentially performing three sequential printing operations, it cannot be said that the "Start Scan" button of Fig. 6 of Pepin is analogous to the single user instruction of the present invention.

Furthermore, although Fig. 6 of Pepin does not directly disclose a "print" button, a user may use the system of Pepin to print a plurality of files including scanned image data and print data sequentially by selecting these files and then the selecting a print operation In other words, in order to print both scanned and stored data, a user must scan image data using the scanner unit and perform the operation of printing the obtained scan image data, by pressing the "Start Scan" button shown in Fig. 6 and then selecting the scanned image data and pressing a "print" button. However, in the present invention, a first scan image data printed by the first printing operation and a second scan image data printed by the third printing operation are obtained by the scanner unit after a only a single input user instruction.

That is, in Pepin, at least a doublet user interaction is required to perform an operation corresponding to present invention's first printing operation. Also, in Pepin, at least a doublet user instruction is necessary to perform an operation corresponding to the third printing operation of the present invention.

Accordingly, Applicant submits that Pepin neither discloses nor suggests that the first printing operation and the third printing operation of the present invention are performed in response to a single user instruction. Furthermore, Pepin also fails to disclose or suggest that the first printing operation, the second printing operation and the third printing operation of the present invention are sequentially performed in that order in response to the single user instruction.

In light of these deficiencies in Pepin, Applicant submits that Claim 29 is now in condition for allowance and respectfully requests same.

Claims 37 and 45 are directed to a method and a computer readable medium, respectively, substantially in accordance with Claim 29. Accordingly, Applicant submits that Claims 37 and 45 are also in condition for allowance and respectfully requests same.

The other pending claims in this application are each dependent from the independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed allowable for at least the same reasons. Because each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual consideration of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the entire application is

believed to be in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

CONCLUSION

The Director is authorized to charge the $490 two-month extension fee to Deposit Account No. 50-3939. The Director is further authorized to charge any deficiency to credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 06-1205.

No claim fees are believed due; however, should it be determined that additional claim fees are required, the Director is hereby authorized to charge such fees to Deposit Account 06-1205.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, CA office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

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